

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HONG K 08239 220908Z

44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 AID-20 L-03 CU-05

OMB-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 DRC-01 (ISO) W

----- 081773

R 220527Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

SECSTATE WASHDC 1591

UNCLAS HONG KONG 8239

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: US-KOREA RELATIONS

1. ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY HONG KONG STANDARD TODAY RUNDS EDITORIAL
TITLED "ONLY AMERICA CAN STOP PARK". EXCERPTS FOLLOW:

2. "GATHERING INTERNATIONAL NOTORIETY DURING THE LAST FEW MONTHS,
THE POLITICALLY REPRESSIVE GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT PARK CHUNG HEE
IN SOUTH KOREA IS APPARENTLY LOSING SUPPORT EVEN IN THE UNITED STATES

LAST WEEK THERE WERE TWO APPEALS MADE TO THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT
AGAINST THE POLITICAL ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY THE US-BACKED PARK
REGIME IN SEOUL.

3. "A GROUP OF AMERICANS, WHICH INCLUDED A FORMER PRESIDENT OF
NEW YORK CITY'S COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, ACCUSED THE PARK REGIME
OF VIOLATING CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS. SLAPPING CHARGES OF
'DICTATORIAL RULE' ON PRESIDENT PARK, THE GROUP DREW THE
ATTENTION OF THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION TO A REGIME--WHICH EVEN
THOUGH SUPPORTED BY THE US--HAS NOW BECOME AN ABSOLUTE
POLITICAL EMBARRASSMENT TO AMERICANS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 HONG K 08239 220908Z

4. IN A TOKYO NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW LAST WEEK, A FORMER US

AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN CALLED ON THE US GOVERNMENT TO REDUCE ITS MILITARY AID TO SOUTH KOREA AS AN ACT OF PROTEST AGAINST THE SEVERE POLITICAL CRACKDOWN THAT IS GOING ON IN THAT COUNTRY."

5. "FOR THE UNITED STATES, THE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT, IN SEOUL ARE IN FACT MORE THAN AN EMBARRASSMENT. THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION CAN HARDLY JUSTIFY ITS SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT PARK. THE US NOW HAS ABOUT 40,000 SERVICEMEN IN SOUTH KOREA--ALL ADDING MILITARY MUSCLE TO A REGIME WHICH HAS ABSOLUTELY NO CLAIMS TOWARDS DEMOCRACY.

6. "DIPLOMATICALLY, SOUTH KOREA IS ALREADY IN TROUBLE WITH ANOTHER OF HER CLOSE ALLIES:JAPAN. AMONGST THE DOZENS SENTENCED TO DEATH AND LIFE IMPRISONMENT IN SEOUL RECENTLY WERE TWO JAPANESE NATIONALS. ACCUSED OF TAKING AN ACTIVE ROLE IN AN APPARENTLY ANTI-GOVERNMENT PLOT, THE TWO JAPANESE WERE SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS IMPRISONMENT.

7. "BROOKING NO OPPOSITION TO HIS REGIME, THE SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENT HAS ELIMINATED EVERY CONCEIVABLE CHALLENGE. A FORMER PRESIDENT IS UNDER HOUSE ARREST, THE OPPOSITION LEADER IS ON TRIL, THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY IS UNDER POLITICAL SURVEILLANCE AND STUDENT GROUPS ARE ON THE RUN.

8. "THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION WIELDS ENOUGH POLITICAL INFLUENCE TO BRING PRESIDENT PARK TO HIS SENSES. AS AN ALTERNATIVE IT HAS THE OPTION OF THREATENING TO CUT OFF ALL MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID. BUT WILL THE US HESITATE TO TAKE THESE DRASTIC MEASURES AGAINST A FAST GROWING ASIAN AUTOCRAT?" END QUOTE.
IZENBERG

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL REPRESSION, POLITICAL PRISONERS, ATROCITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974HONGK08239
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740197-0834
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740729/aaaaayxa.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 OCT 2002 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <17 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEDIA REACTION: US-KOREA RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, KS, US
To: USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005